

REMARKS

A petition to extend the time for response by one (1) month is enclosed herewith.

Applicants enclose a duplicate copy of a Request for Change of Correspondence Address which was faxed to the Office on December 17, 2008. Receipt of the request is acknowledged in Pair. However, as of the date of this amendment, the correspondence address associated with the current application has not been changed.

Claims 18-34 were previously pending in the application. By the Amendment, Claims 18, 21-24, 26, 27, 29 and 31 are currently amended, Claims 19 and 30 are canceled without prejudice and Claims 20, 25, 28 and 32 – 34 remain unchanged.

The specification is under objection for claim references. The specification has been amended to remove such references, thereby negating the objection.

Claims 19 and 30 are under objection as failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 26 and 27 are under objection for spelling errors. Claims 19 and 30 are canceled by the present amendment, thereby negating the objection. Claims 26 and 27 have been amended to correct spelling errors, thereby negating the objection.

Claims 18-34 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Official Action identifies individually and in groups claims 18 and 29; 21, 24, and 31; 22; 23; 24; 26; 27 and 28. These claims have been addressed and amended and it is respectfully asserted that the rejections under 35 USC § 112 are now moot and should be withdrawn.

Substantively, the claims stand rejected under the cited prior art of record. Specifically, Claims 18, 19, 21, 23-25, 29-31 and 34 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 54531312 to Chan (Chan '131). Claims 20-22, 32 and 33 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan '131 in view of US Patent No. 4188807 to Graf et al. (Graf '807). Claims 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan '131 in view of US Patent No. 5839454 to Matz (Matz '454). Claim 28 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan '131 in view of Matz '454 and further in view of US Published Patent Application No. 2002/0117511 to McNabb et al (McNabb "511).

Independent Claim 18 recites a dishwashing machine including a washing container for retaining therein items to be washed and a dosing device operable to add an additive product into the dishwasher. The dosing device is operatively connected to an arrangement that separately stores the basic chemical products of an all-round additive product independent of one another. In addition, the dosing device is operable to independently add into the dishwasher at least a portion of a selected one of at least one basic chemical product of the all-round additive product not used for clear rinsing, at least two, but not all, of the basic chemical products of the all-round additive product together, and at least one reaction mixture including the basic chemical products of the all-round additive product.

Independent Claim 29 recites a method for dosing additives, the method including the steps of dosing into the dishwashing machine an additive product for application of the additive product during a process performed in connection with the handling of items retained in a washing container of the dishwashing machine, the step of dosing an additive product into the dishwashing machine including

dosing, from an arrangement that separately stores the basic chemical products of an all-round additive product independent of one another, at least a portion of a selected one of at least one basic chemical product of the all round additive product not used for clear rinsing, at least two, but not all, of the basic chemical products of the all-round additive product together, and at least one reaction mixture consisting of the basic chemical products of the all-round additive product.

Chan '131 discloses a dishwasher having a dosing device which is adaptive for dosing a rinse substance and/or two other substances such as a cleaning agent or disinfectant at the same time. Therefore, Chan '131 does not disclose a dishwasher with dosing device able to deliver a reaction mixture. Accordingly, the method according to claim 29 is inventive over Chan '131.

In addition, Chan '131 discloses only a dosing device having three chambers, whereby the first chamber is for a liquid cleaning agent, the second chamber is for a rinse and the third chamber is for a disinfectant. According to Chan '131, the disinfectant should be delivered only at low temperatures (Col. 3, lines 65-67) meaning, for example, not during a cleaning step with high temperatures. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would find that Chan '131 gives no hint to deliver different substances in a form composing a reaction mixture. Additionally, it should be noted that Chan '131 gives a person skilled in the art no hint that composing a reaction mixture is possible to build unstable or gaseous substances for use in a dishwasher.

For these and other reasons, Chan '131 does not disclose the subject matter defined by independent Claims 18 and 29. Therefore, Claims 18 and 29 are allowable. Claims 19, 21, and 23-25 depend from Claim 18 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject

matter. Claims 30, 31 and 34 depend from Claim 29 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

Graf '807 does not cure the deficiencies of Chan '131. Since the Chan '131 device cannot deliver a reaction mixture, the structure of Graf '807 giving rise to the mixing of a final cleaning mixture is inapplicable and the combination does not result in the present invention.

For these and other reasons, Chan '131 and Graf '807, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by dependent Claims 20-22, 32 and 33. Therefore, Claims 20-22, 32 and 33 are allowable. Further, Claims 20-22, 32 and 33 depend from either Claim 18 or Claim 29 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

Matz '454 does not cure the deficiencies of Chan '131. Since the Chan '131 device cannot deliver a reaction mixture, the structure of Matz '454 giving rise to the ability to monitor the products being dispensed, and, in the event of a fault, produce an alarm and a program interruption is inapplicable and the combination does not result in the present invention.

For these and other reasons, Chan '131 and Matz '454, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by dependent Claims 26 and 27. Therefore, Claims 26 and 27 are allowable. Claims 26 and 27 depend from Claim 18 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

McNabb '511 does not cure the deficiencies of Chan '131, and as seen hereinbefore, Matz '454 is of no help either. Since the Chan '131 device cannot

deliver a reaction mixture, the structure of McNabb '511 giving rise to the detergent dispensing system is inapplicable and the combination does not result in the present invention.

For these and other reasons, Chan ,131, Matz '454 and McNabb '511, either alone or in any combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by dependent Claim 28. Therefore, Claim 28 is allowable. Claim 28 depends from Claim 18 and are allowable for the same reasons and also because additional patentable subject matter is recited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of Claims 18, 20-29 and 31-34 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted,



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